

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 02416 162202Z  
ACTION A-01

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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5280  
WHITE HOUSE WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 2416

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y ( P A R A 4 L I N E 15 )

DEPT FOR A, WHITE HOUSE FOR MS. MARY HOYT, PRESS SECRETARY  
TO MRS. CARTER

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINR, OVIP, TD, JM (MRS. CARTER)  
SUBJECT: MRS. CARTER'S VISIT: BIO DATA ON GOVERNOR GENERAL OF  
JAMAICA

1. REFTEL, PARA 7, REQUESTED BIOGRAPHIC DATA ON KEY JAMAICAN  
LEADERS. FOLLOWING IS BIO SKETCH OF GOVERNOR GENERAL GLASSPOLE.  
SEPTELS FOLLOW ON PRIME MINISTER AND MRS. MANLEY AND OTHER  
KEY LEADERS.

2. HIS EXCELLENCY THE MOST HONORABLE FLORIZEL GLASSPOLE,  
O.N., C.D. (ADDRESSED: "YOUR EXCELLENCY"). FLORIZEL GLASSPOLE,  
BORN ON SEPTEMBER 25, 1909, IN KINGSTON, HAS BEEN GOVERNOR  
GENERAL OF JAMAICA SINCE MAY, 1973. A LARGE AND CHEERFUL  
MAN WHO ENJOYS BEING THE CENTER OF ATTENTION, HE IS ALSO A  
RELAXED AND INFORMAL PERSON AND AN UNABASHED ADMIRER OF THE  
U.S.-- WHICH HE HAS VISITED MANY TIMES. THOUGH DARK-SKINNED,  
HE DISPLAYS NO RACIAL SENSITIVITIES AND HAS BEEN A VOCAL  
CRITIC OF RECENT SURFACING OF BLACK RACISM TENDENCIES IN  
JAMAICAN SOCIETY AND POLITICAL LIFE. ESSENTIALLY A  
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POLITICAL MODERATE WITH A TRADE UNION BACKGROUND, HE  
ALSO IS A HARSH CRITIC OF THE LEFTWARD DRIFT OF THE  
MANLEY GOVERNMENT IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS. ON OCCASIONS  
HE HAS PUBLICLY DEPLORED SOME OF THE MORE EXTREME  
RHETORIC AND ACTIONS OF JAMAICA'S RADICAL LEFT.

3. SINCE THE MANLEY GOVERNMENT HAS PUBLICLY DECLARED

THAT ONE OF ITS GOALS FOR THE NEXT FEW YEARS IS TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION TO MAKE JAMAICA A REPUBLIC WITHIN THE COMMONWEALTH, IT SEEMS LIKELY GLASSPOLE WILL BE JAMAICA'S LAST GOVERNOR GENERAL.

4. GLASSPOLE WAS EDUCATED THROUGH SECONDARY SCHOOL AT WOLMERS BOYS SCHOOL IN KINGSTON BUT HIS ONLY UNIVERSITY LEVEL EDUCATION WAS ONE YEAR (1946) AT RUSKIN COLLEGE, OXFORD UNIVERSITY, ON A BRITISH TRADE UNION CONGRESS SCHOLARSHIP. BEFORE BECOMING GOVERNOR GENERAL IN 1972, GLASSPOLE WAS ACTIVE IN JAMAICA'S POLITICAL AND TRADE UNION LIFE. FROM 1939 TO 1950 HE WAS THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE JAMAICAN TRADE UNION ADVISORY COUNCIL. IN 1952 HE WAS A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL WORKER'S UNION WHICH, SINCE THAT TIME, HAS BEEN THE TRADE UNION BASE OF THE RULING PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY (PNP). FROM 1944 TO 1973 HE WAS A PNP MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IN 1955 HE BECAME MINISTER OF LABOR IN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PRESENT PRIME MINISTER'S FATHER--NORMAN MANLEY. FROM 1957 59 1962 HE WAS MINISTER OF EDUCATION. BETWEEN 1969 AND 1972, WHEN THE PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY WAS IN IPPOSITION, HE WAS THE SHADOW MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND ELECTORAL MATTERS.

5. THROUGHOUT THE 1950'S AND 1960'S GLASSPOLE WAS MICHAEL MANLEY'S MENTOR AND TUTOR IN THE POLITICS OF TRADE UNIONISM. THAT CLOSE RELATIONSHIP HAS IN RECENT YZEARS BEEN REPLACED BY FORMALITY OWING TO THE POLITICAL DIFFERENCES ALLUDED TO ABOVE.

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6. GLASSPOLE MARRIED THE FORMER INA JOSEPHINE KINLOCKE IN 1934. THEY HAVE ONE DAUGHTER--SARAH LOU--WHO IS IN HER EARLY TWENTIES. THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S INTERESTS INCLUDE POULTRY RAISING, GARDENING, AND CRICKET. DORRANCE

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## Message Attributes

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